

Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1097

AMEMBASSY ANKARA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN IMMEDIATE

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DIA WASHDC (DI-5)

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR CY TU US

SUBJECT: DENKTASH REACTION TO ARMS CUTOFF

1. VICE PRESIDENT DENKTASH GAVE FOLLOWING PRESS CONFERENCE
ON ARMS CUTOFF FEBRUARY 5.

2. ASKED TO COMMENT ON THE OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT
OF THE STOPPAGE OF AMERICAN AID TO TURKEY, MR DENKTASH
SAID QUOTE I DON'T THINK WE HAVE MISSED MUCH. I THINK IT IS
A GOOD THING FOR TURKEY AND FOR THE TURKISH-SPEAKING WORLD TO
FIND OUT THAT THEY CAN SURVIVE AND EXIST AND WIN THEIR RIGHTS
WITHOUT AID. THE AID WAS NOT TO TURKEY. IT WAS TO NATO.
THEREFORE, THE AMERICANS HAVE CUT THE AID TO THEMSELVES. AS
INONU ONCE SAID, TURKEY CAN ALWAYS FIND A PLACE FOR HERSELF
IN THIS WORLD, AND TURKEY CERTAINLY WILL. END QUOTE.

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3. BEGIN QUOTE QUESTION: WHAT IS THE REASON FOR THE EMBARGO?

ANSWER: IT IS THE RESULT OF THE UGLY AMERICAN IMAGE, THINKING THAT BECAUSE THEY ARE RICH, BECAUSE THEY ARE POWERFUL IN AN ALLIANCE, THEY CAN DICTATE ANYTHING TO THEIR ALLIES. THEY HAVE NOW DISCOVERED THAT THEY CANNOT. THIS IS A WRONG POLICY; IT DOES NOT MAKE FRIENDS. ON THE CONTRARY, IT LOSES FRIENDS. I HOPE AMERICAN WILL NOT LOSE TURKEY.

4. QUESTION: WHAT DO YOU THINK IS BEHIND THE POLICY OF EMBARGO?--MR KISSINGER, THE CONGRESS, OR IS IT THE GREEK LOBBY IN THE CONGRESS?

ANSWER: TO ME IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE AND I SHALL NOT DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN ANY OF THE THINGS YOU HAVE MENTIONED. THE FACT REMAINS THAT THE AID TO TURKEY HAS BEEN STOPPED. IT WAS A WRONG THING TO DO. I'M NOT INTERESTED IN THE MACHINERY WHICH STOPPED THE AID, BUT THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT MEMBERS OF THE SENATE AND THE CONGRESS OF GREEK ORIGIN HAVE INFLUENCED THIS ACTION. BUT IS AMERICAN POLICY IS TO BE DICTATED BY SUCH LOBBYING, THEN AMERICAN IS NOT THE STRONGEST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD, IT IS THE WEAKEST.

5. QUESTION: WHERE DID THE MISUNDERSTANDING WHICH STARTED ALL THIS BEGIN? IN YOUR LEDRA PALACE TALKS WITH MR CLERIDES?

ANSWER: THIS MISUNDERSTANDING STARTED IN 1963 WHEN MAKARIOS AND GREECE TRIED TO TAKE OVER CYPRUS AND UNITED IT WITH GREECE; THE AMERICANS SHUT THEIR EYES TO IT. IT STARTED WHEN TURKEY TRIED TO PREVENT THIS TAKEOVER IN 1964, AND AMERICA INTERVENED. IT STARTED AGAIN WHEN PRESIDENT JOHNSON SENT THAT FAMOUS LETTER TO PRIME MINISTER INONU. IT STARTED WHEN GREECE OCCUPIED CYPRUS FOR FOUR OR FIVE YEARS WITH WHAT AMERICA SHOULD CALL NATO FORCES; HARRASSING THE TURKS, CUTTING DOWN THE TURKS. THESE AMERICAN LOBBYISTS IN THE AMERICAN PARLIAMENT DID NOTHING ABOUT IT. IT STARTED WHEN NATO GUNS KILLED TURKS AND BURIED TURKISH VILLAGES, AND AGAIN THESE GENTLEMEN DID NOTHING ABOUT IT. IT STARTED WHEN WE HAD FOR ELEVEN YEARS 24,000 TURKS AS REFUGEES AND 103 TURKISH VILLAGES

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COMPLETELY DESTROYED, AND AMERICAN STILL DID NOTHING; THEY DID NOT GIVE US EVEN A SINGLE PENNY AS HELP. IT STARTED WHEN THEY TREATED ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS, WHO HAD DESTROYED THE CONSTITUTION, AS THE CONSTITUTIONAL HEAD OF THIS COUNTRY AND COMPLETELY FORGOT THE TURKISH PARTNER'S EXISTENCE IN CYPRUS. IT IS THIS WRONG POLICY, THE PROHELLENIC POLICY OF AMERICA, WHICH HAS BROUGHT THIS RESULT TODAY.

6. QUESTION: DO YOU SEE A WAY OUT?

ANSWER: THE WAY OUT IS FOR US TO STAND FIRM, AND FOR TURKEY TO STAND FIRM. I AM GLAD TO SAY THE REPORTS FROM ANKARA INDICATE THAT TURKEY SHALL STAND FIRM. WE SHALL STAND FIRM, TOO. THE WORLD DOES NOT CONSIST OF AMERICANS, WE SHALL FIND A WAY. I BELIEVE WAYS HAVE ALREADY BEEN FOUND, BUT I SHALL NOT TALK ABOUT THEM NOW. THE WORLD SHALL SEE, THERE WILL BE NO CHANGE AT ALL IN OUR POSITION.

7. QUESTION: MAKARIOS MENTIONED THE POSSIBILITY OF RUSSIAN HELP TO THE GREEK PART OF CYPRUS. WHAT IS YOUR VIEW ON THIS?

ANSWER: I AM NOT GOING TO THINK ABOUT THAT. LET THE AMERICANS THINK ABOUT IT. MAKARIOS HAS BEEN PLAYING THE AMERICANS AGAINST THE RUSSIANS FOR A GREAT NUMBER OF YEARS -- WITH SOME SUCCESS. IF HE IS GOING TO SUCCEED IN THIS SORT OF STUPID GAME AGAIN, I DO NOT THINK IT SHALL BE A CROWNING SUCCESS FOR HIM, NOR FOR CYPRUS, NOR FOR THE REGION, BUT IS UP TO HIM TO TAKE HELP FROM ANY QUARTER HE LIKES. WE HAVE OUR SOURCES TOO.

8. QUESTION: WILL THE TALKS WITH MR CLERIDES CONTINUE?

ANSWER: WE ARE CONSIDERING THE POSITION, BUT WE HAVE NOT YET DECIDED.

9. QUESTION: IS THERE AN INTENTION ON YOUR PART TO DECLARE AN INDEPENDENT TURKISH CYPRIOT STATE?

ANSWER: WE ARE ALREADY 98 PERCENT INDEPENDENT IN EXISTENCE. SO, WHETHER WE SHALL DECLARE THE REMAINING TWO PERCENT TODAY OR TOMORROW OR WITHIN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS IS A MATTER FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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US TO DECIDE.

10. QUESTION: DO YOU THINK THE AMERICAN EMBARGO WILL HELP YOU TO MAKE A DECISION?

ANSWER: IT HAS CERTAINLY PROVOKED US IN THAT DIRECTION AND IT MAY YET PROVOKE US TO FINALIZE OUR SEPARATE EXISTENCE OF COURSE.

11. QUESTION: ARE YOU NOW IN FULL COOPERATION WITH ANKARA?

ANSWER: WE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN IN FULL COOPERATION WITH THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT. I HAVE ALREADY SENT MY REPORT TO ANKARA ON WHAT HAD TO BE DONE AT THIS STAGE. IN VIEW OF ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS' DECLARED INTENTION OF INTERNATIONALIZING

THE CYPRUS AND PREPARING FOR A LONG STRUGGLE, I AM
FOR DECLARING NOW AN INDEPENDENT TURKISH CYPRIOT STATE TODAY,
AS THE FUTURE PARTNER OF A CONFEDERATED REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS.
THIS IS MY VIEW. THIS IS MY COMMUNITY'S VIEW. I DO NOT
KNOW WHAT REACTION WILL COME FROM ANKARA. END QUOTE.
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